Co-ordination between various agencies in the power sector

71. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a need for co-ordination between various organizations and agencies like Power Grid Corporation and others to ensure that while laying power lines and building transmission towers some specific route is followed;

(b) if so, details of possibilities explored in this regard;

(c) the details of steps proposed to increase safety and economy in such operations; and

(d) the steps proposed to avoid duplication of work by various agencies?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) The transmission systems in the country are executed by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., State Electricity Boards, etc. in a coordinated manner in accordance with the plan prepared by the Central Electricity Authority. The transmission systems are evolved after considering various aspects like optimum utilization of existing transmission systems and the transmission systems being planned/executed by other agencies to avoid any duplication. The routes of the transmission lines are decided in accordance with the provisions of Indian Electricity Rules and the Indian Standard 5613 (Part 2/Section 1), 1985.

(c) In order to ensure economy and safety in implementation of the transmission lines, among others, the following are kept in view.

(i) It is advantageous to lay the line near to and along roadway or railway.

(ii) The route should be as short and as straight as possible.

(iii) Good farming areas, uneven terrain, religious places, civil and defence installations, industries, aerodromes and their approach and take off funnels, public and private premises, ponds, tank, lakes, gardens and plantations should be avoided as far as practicable.

(iv) Cost of securing and clearing right-of-way, making access roads and time required for these works should be minimum.

(v) Crossing with permanent objects, such as railway lines and roads should be minimum and preferably at right angles.

(vi) Difficult and unsafe approaches should be avoided.

(vii) The line should be away from the buildings containing explosives, bulk storage, oil tanks, oil or gas pipelines.

(viii) Care is taken to avoid historical monuments, forests and wild life sanctuaries, village, habitations, etc. to the extent possible.

(ix) Clearance from the Electrical Inspector of Central Electricity Authority is obtained before commissioning the line.

Setting up of National Energy Board

72. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up a National Energy Board to integrate the energy related Ministries so as to enable Government to evolve an Integrated Energy Policy which helps as a road-map for the energy sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) A Standing Committee on Energy Policy has been constituted on 28th June, 2004 to address issues relating to short, medium and long term policies and review such policies cutting across sectors, fuels and regions, to enhance country's energy security.

Rural Housing Scheme

73. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) the details of number of houses constructed and distributed in various parts of the country, District-wise/State-wise, under the Rural Housing Scheme for the poor people, who are residing below the poverty line, during the last three years till date; and

(b) the number of houses proposed to be constructed under the scheme during the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.